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U.S. Air Force Band, Singing Sergeants To Perform Free Concert Oct. 15 at Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO — The U.S. Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants will perform patriotic selections, Broadway tunes, and two world premieres in a free concert Monday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. in Harman Hall of the Performing Arts Center's Christopher Cohan Center at Cal Poly.

The performance is part of their 14-day fall tour through California and Arizona. The theme of the program is "Airpower!"

The U.S. Air Force Band is the Air Force's premier musical organization. Based at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, in Washington, D.C., the organization consists of six performing groups: the Air Force Strings, Ceremonial Brass, Airmen of Note, Max Impact, Concert Band and Singing Sergeants.

One of the featured vocal soloists, Technical Sgt. Ben Park earned a Bachelor of Arts in music with honors in 2002 from UC Berkeley, where he won the Eisner Prize in Music for Voice and was awarded a University of California Regents Scholarship. Following his undergraduate studies, Park pursued graduate work at the Peabody Conservatory, earning a Master of Music in 2005 and a Graduate Performance Diploma in Opera in 2006.

The Concert Band is an internationally recognized symphonic wind ensemble and the largest of the six groups within the U.S. Air Force Band. The ensemble performs a wide variety of music, from classical transcriptions and original works to solo features, light classics, popular favorites and patriotic selections, demonstrating excellence and delivering powerful Air Force messages while inspiring audiences.

The Singing Sergeants, the official chorus of the U.S. Air Force, is one of the most versatile and traveled choral organizations in the world. Comprised of 20 professional airmen-vocalists, they group performs choral classics, opera, Broadway tunes, folk songs, jazz, and popular and patriotic standards.

For more than 70 years, the Concert Band and Singing Sergeants have traveled together throughout the nation and around the globe.

The concert is free and open to the public; however, tickets are required. Tickets are available at the Performing Arts Ticket Office between noon and 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. To order by phone, call SLO-4TIX (756-4849). For more information, call the Music Department or visit www.pacslo.org/tickets.

The concert is also sponsored by Cal Poly's College of Liberal Arts, Music Department and The Tribune.

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